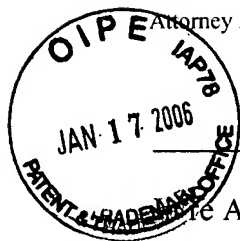


AF
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Attorney Docket # 3029-74RCE

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Yasuhiro SAKAI et al.

Serial No.: 10/005,753

Filed: October 29, 2001

For: Method of Staining, and Detecting and Counting
Bacteria, and a Diluent for Bacterial Stain

Examiner: F. C. Prats

Group Art: 1651

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Kent H. Cheng

Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

Kent H. Cheng

Signature

January 13, 2006

Date of Signature

Mail Stop **Amendment AF**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

SIR:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 22, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.